



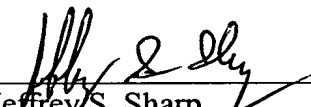
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EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL
GROUP ART UNIT 1633

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| Applicant: |) | I hereby certify that this paper is being |
| McMichael, J. <i>et al.</i> |) | deposited with the United States Postal |
| Serial No.: 09/495,186 |) | Service with sufficient postage as first |
| Filed: February 1, 2000 |) | class mail in an envelope addressed to: |
| |) | Assistant Commissioner for Patents, |
| |) | Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: |
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| |) |  |
| Group Art Unit: 1633 |) | Jeffrey S. Sharp |
| |) | Registration No. 31,879 |
| Examiner: Wilson, M. |) | Attorney for Applicants |

**APPLICANT'S AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO
FINAL OFFICE ACTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2001 in which all pending claims (1-20) are finally rejected under one or more of 35 U.S.C. §§112 (first and second paragraphs) 102(e), 103(a), and under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting. This response is timely filed. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims is solicited in light of the following remarks.